

(iii) adoption in the following descending order of priority:

1. by a current foster parent with whom the child has resided continually for at least the 12 months prior to developing the permanency plan or for a sufficient length of time to have established positive relationships and family ties; or

2. by another approved adoptive family; or

(iv) another planned permanent living arrangement that:

1. addresses the individualized needs of the child, including the child's educational plan, emotional stability, physical placement, and socialization needs; and

2. includes goals that promote the continuity of relations with individuals who will fill a lasting and significant role in the child's life.

(3) Subject to paragraphs (1) and (2) of this subsection and to the extent consistent with the best interests of a child in an out-of-home placement, in determining a permanency plan, the local department shall consider the following in descending order of priority:

(i) placement of the child in the local jurisdiction where the child's parent or guardian resides; or

(ii) if the local department finds, based on a compelling reason, that placement of the child as described in item (i) of this paragraph is not in the best interest of the child, placement of the child in another jurisdiction in the State after considering:

1. the availability of resources to provide necessary services to the child;

2. the accessibility to family treatment, if appropriate; and

3. the effect on the local school system.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2008.